GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3562
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
SARDAR SAROVAR PROJECT
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made on the construction of Sardar Sarovar Project alongwith expenditure incurred so far;

(b) whether the Government of Gujarat had agreed to a revised rehabilitation package of Rs. 239 crore for the dam oustees of Madhya Pradesh and to provide free electricity to Madhya Pradesh in lieu of power loss likely to arise as a result of Irrigation By- Pass Tunnel (IBPT) constructed without concurrence of participating State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) The progress made so far in the construction of the Sardar Sarovar Project is as below:

Dam : The spillway blocks of the Sardar Sarovar dam (block No. 30 to 46) have been raised up to Elevation 95 metre. 3 metre high humps have also been constructed over block Nos. 31 to 45 of this truncated portion of the spillway keeping in view the safety of the dam. Other blocks are at various higher levels.

Power House: The Canal Head Power House of the project is completed in all respects and test run for some units has also been done. The works of River Bed Power House are in progress.

Canals: The canal lining works in the reach 0 to 263 Km of Narmada Main Canal are almost complete and the remaining reach upto Rajasthan border is under various stages of construction.

Expenditure: An amount of Rs. 14,056.46 crore has been spent on the construction of the Sardar Sarovar Project upto 31st January, 2003.

(b) & (c) As per the information received from the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited, the Government of Gujarat had agreed to an additional liberalized rehabilitation package and financial assistance of Rs. 201 crore for the displaced families of the project in Madhya Pradesh.

As per the request of the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the Government of Gujarat has provided Rs. 165 crore to the Government of Madhya Pradesh as rehabilitation package to expedite the Resettlement & Rehabilitation works in Madhya Pradesh. The issue of construction of Irrigation Bye-Pass Tunnel (IBPT) at Sardar Sarovar Project had been discussed among the Chief Ministers of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh and Ministers of Rajasthan & Maharashtra. Accordingly the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh agreed to the construction of IBPT provided the Government of Madhya Pradesh is compensated at free of cost for the loss of hydro power for all the water passing through IBPT and this loss should be converted into the million units of energy lost. Based on these discussions, the Review Committee of Narmada Control Authority in its 9th meeting held on 18-08-2001 decided that:

1. The Narmada Control Authority (NCA) decision on IBPT is endorsed and the construction IBPT should be completed.

2. Government of Gujarat shall compensate Government of Madhya Pradesh, free of cost, for the loss of power due to running of IBPT, which will be calculated in million units.

3. The reservoir water level shall not be depleted below the Minimum Draw Down Level (MDDL) of elevation 110.64 metre.

4. The NCA shall evolve a mechanism to control and ensure that the reservoir water is not drawn through the IBPT below the MDDL.